

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 124165x349	FOR FURTHER ACTION		see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/NZ2004/000249	International filing date (day/month/year) 12 October 2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 13 October 2003	
Applicant ELIMINATOR HOLDINGS LIMITED et al			

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II).

3. Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

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Box No. IV Text of the Abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

According to one aspect of the present invention there is provided an improved fluid treatment system, including a low-pressure source, where the low-pressure source imparts a low pressure to at least part of the internal volume of the improved fluid treatment system, and at least one fluid inlet (5), and a primary chamber (2), wherein the primary chamber (2) contains at least one baffle (7) adapted to control the flowrate of fluid out of the primary chamber (2), and, a secondary chamber (3), wherein the secondary chamber (3) defines at least one inclined surface (4), and at least one fluid outlet (10), characterised in that, fluid entering from the fluid inlet (5) is pooled between the primary chamber (2) wall and the baffle (7) before flowing out of the primary chamber (2) past the baffle (7) to form a thin film laminar flow on at least part of the surface of the secondary chamber (3) to remove at least part of the gas entrained within the fluid.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ? A01J 5/00, 11/00, 11/04, 19/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
DWPI: A01J 5/00, 11/00, 11/04, 19/00; A23C 7/04; & Keywords - deaerat+, degas+, 'air remov+', milk, dairy

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6345590 B (CATTANEO) 12 February 2002 Whole document	1-12
A	WO 1993/022902 A (PELLONPAJA OY) 25 November 1993 Whole document	1-12
A	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 20346C/12, Class D13 R13 DT2836845 A (TUCHENHAGEN O) 13 March 1980 Abstract	1-12
A	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 46435C/27, Class D13 DT2855653 A (FA TUCHENHAGEN O) 26 June 1980 Abstract	1-12

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 11 January 2005	Date of mailing of the international search report 4 FEB 2005
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

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This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report			Patent Family Member				
US	6345590	AU	11349/00	CA	2296281	EP	1021948
		IT	MI990118	JP	2000217459	NZ	502316
WO	9322902	EP	0639046	FI	922092	NZ	252173
		US	5546892				
DE	2836845	DE	2913242	DE	2918477		
DE	2855653	DK	549279	NL	7909278	ZA	7906729

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX